IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Irbe application of: Bangerter et al.

Attorney Docket No.: STFUP141/S03-

pplication No.: 10/635,672

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: August 5, 2003

Group: 3737

Title: ARTIFACT REDUCTION IN SSFP MRI USING WEIGHTED SUM OF COMBINED

SIGNALS

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail on in an envelope addressed to the Com

in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for

Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT 37 CFR §§1.56 AND 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The references listed in the attached PTO Form 1449, copies of which are attached, may be material to examination of the above-identified patent application. Applicants submit these references in compliance with their duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.56 and 1.97. The Examiner is requested to make these references of official record in this application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, that additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist, or that these references indeed constitute prior art.

This Information Disclosure Statement is: (i) filed within three (3) months of the filing date of the above-referenced application, (ii) believed to be filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or (iii) believed to be filed before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under §1.114. Accordingly, it is believed that no fees are due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, if it is determined that any fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 500388 (Order No. STFUP141).

Respectfully submitted,

BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS, LLP

wyklobodward

C. Woodward

Reg. No. 22,672

P.O. Box 778 Berkeley, CA 94704-0778

| | _ | | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|--|--|
| Form 1449 (Modified) | Atty Docket No. | STFUP141/S03-037 | | |
| Form 1449 (Modified) | Application No.: | 10/635,672 | | |
| | | Bangerter et al. | | |
| Information Disclosure Statement By Applies 17 Applies | Filing Date | August 5, 2003 | | |
| | Group | 3737 | | |
| (Use Several Sheets if Necessary) | | | | |

U.S. Patent Documents

| Examiner Initial | No. | Patent No. | Date | Patentee | Class | Sub- class | Filing Date |
|---------------------|-----|------------|------|----------|-------|---------------|----------------|
| | A. | | | | | | |
| | B. | | | | | | |
| | C. | | | | | | |
| | D. | | | | | 1 | |
| | E. | | | | | | |
| | F. | | | | | | |
| | G. | | | | | 1 | |
| | H. | | | | | | |
| | I. | | | | | | |
| | J. | | | | | | |
| | K. | | | | | | |
| | L. | | | | | | |

Foreign Patent or Published Foreign Patent Application

| Examiner Initial | | Document No. | Publication Date | Country or Patent Office | Class | Sub- Class | Translation Yes No |
|---------------------|----|--------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------|---------------|-----------------------|
| | M. | | | | | | |
| | N. | | | | | <u> </u> | |
| | O. | | | | , | | |

Other Documents

| Examiner Initial | No. | Author, Title, Place (e.g. Journal) of Publication, Date |
|---------------------|-----|---|
| | P. | Vasanawala et al., "Linear Combination Steady-State Free Precession MRI," Magnetic Resonance in Medicine 43: pp. 82-90, (2000). |
| | Q. | Bangerter et al., "General Framework for the SNR Analysis of Multiple-Acquisition SSFP," Proceedings of 11 th Annual ISMRM, 10-16 July 2003, p. 976. |
| - | R. | |
| | S. | |
| Examiner | | Date Considered |

Examiner: Initial citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.